

flags or other insignia they may carry, they are nevertheless German-made and, as far as officers go, are German manned.

There is no concealing the fact that the gravest anxiety is felt in official circles generally. At the White House and State Department tension is everywhere manifest. The opinion seems to be that unless some general understanding is reached with all the central powers at once, it will be impossible to avert a break.

Both Ambassador Penfield at Vienna and Ambassador Gerard at Berlin have been directed to make inquiries of the Austrian and German governments for any information they have on the Persia attack.

TO FIX RESPONSIBILITY.

The United States wants particularly to know whether either of these governments acknowledges the attack and is going to defend it, or whether both governments will say that a mine was responsible.

Baron Zwiedenek, the Austrian charge d'affaires, who has expressed confidence that Austria will be able to give a satisfactory explanation to the United States if the Persia was sunk by an Austrian submarine, conferred for some time this afternoon with Secretary of State Lansing, but declined on leaving to say anything. It was evident, however, that he had been impressed with the gravity of the whole situation as viewed by the United States. The charge conferred later with Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who is expected also to call on Mr. Lansing.

Both Zwiedenek and Secretary Lansing refused to discuss the object of the former's visit, but it was learned the Austrian charge had called to ask for any details this Government might have regarding the Persia. The information of the Austrian embassy has come through press dispatches. The Secretary gave the charge all the information in hand from consuls abroad.

Later in the day Baron Zwiedenek said: "I feel just as sure today as I did Saturday upon the arrival of the Ancona note, that American and Austrian relations will continue friendly. It seems to have been generally overlooked that there never has been an intention on the part of submarine commanders to torpedo ships without warning."

Before the Austrian called, Senator Stone, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called and discussed the situation. Except to say that he would undoubtedly confer with the President after the latter's return to Washington, the Senator would not discuss the new developments. Secretary to the President Tumulty also had a long talk with Mr. Lansing, during which, it is understood, he transmitted certain instructions which the President gave him over the telephone this morning.

INFORMATION IS LIMITED.

Thus far, with the exception of brief dispatches from Ambassador Page, at Rome, and the American consul at Marseilles, France, confirming the sinking of the Persia, the information of the department is limited to the following cablegrams. The first is from Consul Garrels at Alexandria:

"P. & O. liner Persia, carrying 4.7 gun, sunk five minutes past one afternoon, December 30, about 100 miles northwest Alexandria. Presumably torpedoed, no submarine was seen, Second Officer Bromey seeing torpedo track. Vessel sunk in about five minutes. Two American citizens aboard. Charles I. Grant, manager Vacuum Oil Co., Calcutta, is safe, Alexandria. Robert Nay McNeely, assigned consul of the United States at Aden, most probably lost. Of a total 400 passengers and crew, 155 landed Alexandria, January 1. McNeely last seen in water. In view of the fact sunken vessel being armed, does the department desire the affidavits?"

"GARRELS, Consul."

The second cablegram to the State Department came from Consul Arnold at Cairo, and was as follows:

"P. & O. steamer Persia torpedoed forty miles southeast of Crete, Thursday, 1:05 P. M. without return, Bigham, is survivor. Can obtain affidavit if warning. Nationality submarine unknown as not visible. Sank in five minutes. About 550 passengers and crew, including many women and children, about 150 saved. Survivors picked up after thirty hours by British destroyer, Mallard. Reported that American consul, proceeding to post at Aden, lost. Details given me by high commissioner, whose military secured."

ARNOLD."

Consul Arnold has been instructed to get the affidavit, and affidavits have also been asked from Consul Garrels. The United States is particularly anxious to obtain an account of the attack from Grant, hope for McNeely having been abandoned.

IS NOT ESTABLISHED.

Regarding the importance of the gun on board the Persia, the State Department intimated today that while, in reference to belligerent merchant vessels leaving ports of the United States, this Government has taken the position that they have the right to mount guns for "defensive purposes," it has not definitely been established what the position will be with respect to armed liners attacked by submarines.

Zwiedenek, it was later learned, assured Mr. Lansing that Austrian submarine commanders had never been directed to torpedo merchant vessels without warning. He expressed confidence, that if an Austrian submarine was responsible for the attack on the Persia, the government at Vienna would quickly disavow the act, punish the commander, and make satisfactory reparation.

THE HIGHEST RATE FOR 5 YEARS

Health Department Report Shows 6,494 Deaths, Largest Number Since 1910.

Figures made public by the Health Department today show that the death rate in the District for the year 1915 was the highest since 1910.

Deaths from all causes numbered 6,494 as compared with 5,866 during the preceding year, an increase of 628 or 10.7 per cent. The death rate per 1,000 increased from 16.59 to 18.15.

Recent correspondence with fourteen other cities showed a decrease in the death rate during January 1 and December 10 in all except New York.

"Why increase should appear only in deaths in New York city and Washington, and why the increase in this city should be so large as compared even with the increase in New York city, remains," the department states, "to be determined."

Department's Statement.

Following is the department's statement: "Among whites, deaths increased from 3,043 to 3,513, with a corresponding rise in the death rate, from 15.44 to 16.11. Among colored, the number of deaths increased from 2,373 to 2,981, and the rate from 24.31 to 26.12. The white death rate is the highest since 1907, and the colored, the highest since 1912.

"The increase in the number of deaths was not limited to any one age period. Deaths in the first year of life increased from 235 to 277; between one and four years, from 225 to 242; between five and nineteen years, from 256 to 325; between twenty and sixty-nine years, from 1,024 to 1,230; and at seventy years and over, from 1,207 to 1,430. Computed upon the number of reported births, the death rate in the first year of life rose from 109 per thousand births to 110.

Conspicuous Increase.

"Deaths from the diseases of middle and advanced life, sometimes called the degenerative diseases, showed an increase that was by far the most conspicuous feature of the year. Deaths from diseases of the heart increased from 777 to 855. Deaths from chronic inflammation of the kidneys increased from 688 to 620. From acute inflammation of the kidneys there were 74 deaths as compared with 51 for the preceding year, an increase probably bearing some relation to the increase in the number of deaths reported from chronic kidney diseases. Apoplexy showed an increase from 419 to 427. Deaths from arterio sclerosis increased from 143 to 167.

"Among acute diseases pneumonia showed the most conspicuous increase, from 463 to 668. This was offset, to an almost negligible extent, by a decrease in the number of deaths from diphtheria, from 96 to 86, and in the number of deaths from pulmonary congestion from 12 to 6. The number of deaths from pneumonia increased from 419 to 427, which was probably related to the increase in mortality from pneumonia.

Whoooping Cough Kills 19.

"Deaths caused by whooping cough rose from 18 to 19; by measles, from 5 to 5; by epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, from 5 to 6, and by scarlet fever, from 1 to 2. Decreases occurred in deaths due to diphtheria, from 96 to 86, and in deaths due to typhoid fever, from 42 to 42. The increase in the number of deaths was not limited to disease processes, but extended also to deaths from violence. Deaths from accidents increased from 215 to 220, and deaths from suicides from 29 to 31. Recent correspondence with other cities showed variations in the number of deaths reported between January 1 and December 10, or thereabout, as follows: "Baltimore showed a decrease in the total mortality from 10,551 to 9,286, and in infant mortality from 1,964 to 1,561. "In Chicago, deaths from all causes fell from 33,953 to 31,918, and deaths in the first year of life fell from 3,880 to 3,411. "In Cincinnati, a decrease from 5,901 to 5,799, for general mortality, and from 807 to 669 for infant mortality. "In Cleveland, a general decrease from 3,246 to 3,027, and deaths among infants from 1,346 to 1,177. "In Detroit, there was a decrease from 8,204 to 7,794 in total mortality, and from 2,231 to 2,054 in infant mortality. "In Indianapolis, there was a decrease in the total mortality from 4,562 to 3,740, and a decrease in deaths during the first year of life from 781 to 617.

Decrease in Milwaukee.

"In Milwaukee, a general decrease from 4,920 to 4,322 and a decrease among infants from 1,119 to 985. "In Minneapolis, deaths from all causes decreased from 4,115 to 3,561, and deaths in the first year of life fell from 653 to 524. "In Newark, a general decrease from 5,800 to 5,693, and a decrease among infants from 1,111 to 886. "In New York city there was an increase from 70,639 to 71,258 in deaths from all causes, and an increase from 12,614 to 13,000 in deaths during the first year of life. "In Philadelphia the general decrease

THE WEATHER REPORT.

The forecast for the District of Columbia—Fair and colder tonight; temperature about freezing; Tuesday fair, gentle to moderate northwest winds. Maryland—Fair and colder tonight; temperature about freezing; Tuesday fair, gentle to moderate northwest winds. Virginia—Fair and somewhat colder tonight; Tuesday fair, gentle to moderate northwest winds.

TEMPERATURES.

U. S. BUREAU.	APFLECK'S.
8 a. m. 42	8 a. m. 44
9 a. m. 43	9 a. m. 45
10 a. m. 43	10 a. m. 45
11 a. m. 43	11 a. m. 45
12 m. 43	12 noon 45
1 p. m. 43	1 p. m. 45

E. TABLE.	W. TABLE.
8 a. m. and 6:20 p. m. 43	8 a. m. and 6:20 p. m. 43
10 a. m. 43	10 a. m. 43
12 noon 43	12 noon 43
2 p. m. 43	2 p. m. 43

Billy Convert Insane, Kills Mother

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 3.—Ed G. H. Buchenau, prominent Syracusean, killed his mother with a hammer this morning while suffering from a fit of religious mania. He was a Billy Sunday trail-hitter.

After saying that he and other members of the family had hit the trail, Buchenau declared he wanted his mother to go to heaven, where she would not have to work so hard. Buchenau is about twenty-eight years old.

The Buchenau home, when entered by the police, was found literally plastered with pictures of Billy Sunday and members of his party.

SCIENTISTS TO HEAR BRYAN AND DUMONT

Aviator Urges Commercial Air Routes Before Pan-American Conference.

William Jennings Bryan, pleading for a more thorough Pan-American commercial education, and aviator, urged commercial aviation routes, and bankers of North and South America advocating uniform currency in all American republics, furnished the high lights for the opening sessions of the second week's meeting of the Pan-American Scientific Congress today.

The former Secretary of State and the aviator are speaking this afternoon at the Pan-American Union, the former at the Pan-American Union and the latter at the New Willard Hotel.

Ask Monetary Uniformity.

The bankers made their plea for a monetary uniformity in the Western Hemisphere at the New Willard this morning, with Prof. Guillermo Subercaseaux, professor of political economy in the University of Chile, making the most striking recommendation, that of the establishment of a monetary union in America similar to the Latin monetary union of Europe.

The entire question of uniform currency was thrust out thoroughly, and was characterized as one of the most important factors in the cultivation of commercial co-operation between the American nations.

Other experts taking part in the discussion besides Prof. Subercaseaux were Prof. E. W. Kemmerer, of Princeton, and Professor Roberto, of the National City Bank of New York.

Prof. Kemmerer said the condition at present is especially favorable to the securing of Pan-American monetary unity because United States gold coins comprise about four-fifths of the gold coins of the Americas, while our gold dollar is the most widely used.

Looks For Dollar Standard.

Though ten of the twenty-one republics are not now on a gold basis they intend to go back to such a basis, ultimately, he said, and that fact makes the securing of the United States gold dollar as a unit extremely hopeful.

Prof. Subercaseaux suggested that, since the exercise of sovereign rights, any Pan-American monetary union would have to be patterned after the Latin Monetary Union, formed by a convention composed of France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and Greece, which is still in force.

Would Limit Regulation.

Rational limits to railroad regulation were urged by Prof. Emory K. Johnson, of the University of Pennsylvania. He said competing railroads should be permitted to work together in arranging services, under appropriate supervision.

In the scientific meetings, Elmer A. Sperry, of New York, inventor of the airplane, explained a demonstration of his device, explaining that solar power was discussed by Prof. A. E. Douglass, of the University of Arizona, and Prof. H. H. Kimball, of the University of Arizona. Eight hours of sunlight at Tucson, Ariz., according to Prof. Douglass, produces 1,000,000 watts of electric power.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR STOLEN AUTO

Court Holds Owner Cannot Be Liable For Thief's Recklessness.

An accident resulting from the reckless driving of a stolen automobile is not attributable to the owner of the machine even if his agent negligently left the switch-key in it, and thus permitted its theft, it was held, in a decision handed down today by Justice Josiah A. Van Orsdel in the Court of Appeals of the District.

The case was that of Mrs. Squires against Leo C. Brooks, heard on appeal by the plaintiff from a judgment sustaining a demurrer to the declaration.

The negligence alleged in the declaration against the defendant, and on which the action was based, was that his agent left the defendant's automobile standing in the street unattended, open, or locking the "throttle, or switch," as required by law.

Prominent Attorney Dead in Petersburg

PETERSBURG, Va., Jan. 3.—William R. McKenney, one of Petersburg's prominent lawyers, died this morning of pneumonia. He was counsel in Petersburg for the Seaboard Air Line, and a member of city council, of which body he was once president. He was also a member of the city finance committee. He was sixty-three years old. He is survived by his widow and one son.

HEBREWS HERE MEET JAN. 20 TO RAISE FUNDS

Appeal for Relief of Jews of Russia Will Be Made in Temple.

A great mass meeting to raise funds for the relief of the homeless, war-stricken Jews of Poland, Galicia and Russia will be held in this city on the night of January 20 at the Eighth Street Temple.

The Rev. Dr. J. L. Magnes, whose eloquence so stirred a New York gathering a few nights ago that \$100,000 was subscribed, will be the principal speaker at the Washington meeting. President Wilson, members of his Cabinet, Senators, Congressmen and other officials have been invited to attend.

Arrangements for the mass meeting here are being made by a committee consisting of Simon Wolf, chairman, Julius Peyer, treasurer, and the Rev. Dr. Abram Simon, secretary. Already there have been responses to the appeal in behalf of the suffering Jews of Europe. Mr. Wolf announced today that the following early contributions have been received:

Large Contributors.

Simon Kann, of S. Kann Sons & Co., \$500; Chris Heinrich, \$250; John E. McLean, \$100; Mrs. William J. Boardman, \$100; Miss Mabel Boardman, \$25; Charles C. Glover, \$50, and many smaller contributions.

"There are at least one million homeless, suffering Jews in the European war zone," said Mr. Wolf, today. "There is needed now \$10,000,000, and if the war continues this will be but temporary relief. Jewish aid up to this time has been confined almost entirely to the co-religionists of the European sufferers, but the appeal is made to all."

Jews Aided Belgians.

"The Jews of Washington and elsewhere have been contributors to various relief funds for the Belgians, Armenians, and others, and now their own people are in direct want. We expect a great mass meeting on the evening of January 20, and Dr. Magnes is coming to describe the conditions in Russia, Poland, and Galicia, where the suffering centers."

The Washington committee, headed by Mr. Wolf, was named by the national Jewish relief committee, whose headquarters are in New York, a city that has contributed \$1,000,000 to aid the European Jews.

Food on Every Side, Oscar on the Tide; Little Squirrel Died

It Might Have Given the Jitney a Spurt If They'd Let the Starving Pet Eat Bert.

By BERTON BRALEY.

WITH FORD PEACE PARTY, CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Dec. 19 (by mail to New York).—So busy were the delegates, with weighty work of peace, so plunged in various mental states by words that did not cease; so import engrossed in hosts of things of import extra high; so deep in wireless to Kings, they let the squirrel die.

They let the little squirrel die, within his cage of wire, although with mutely pleading eye he showed his dumb desire for just a nut or two for food to spur his flagging breath—and so amid this noble brood the squirrel starved to death.

They brought this little pet along upon this merry trip, yet no one in the hitherbrood throng that filled the peaceful ship had time to heed the nibbling strength that faded day by day, and so they let him starve at length—the squirrel nipped away.

Although the squirrel was a joke, a jest of low degree, what shall we think of peace ship folk who brought him overseas, and then while talking—hand on heart—of love with every breath, allowed his spirit to depart, and let him starve to death?

ALLEGED GAMBLING COSTS EMPLOYES PAY

Pending a further investigation by Public Printer Ford, five employees of the Government Printing Office, suspended at the close of the day Friday for alleged betting on horse races in the building, will remain suspended without pay. The Public Printer is giving his personal consideration to the matter, the suspensions resulting from a personal inquiry on his part.

NOSE CLOGGED FROM A COLD OR CATARRH

Apply Cream in Nostrils to Open Up Air Passages.

What relief! Your clogged nostrils open right up, the air passages of your head are clear, and you can breathe freely. No more hawking, snuffing, mucous discharge, headache, dryness, no struggling for breath at night, your cold or catarrh is gone. Don't stay stuffed up! Get a small box of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic cream in your nostrils, let it penetrate through every air passage of the nasal, soothe and heal the swollen, inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Ely's Cream Balm is just what every cold and catarrh sufferer has been seeking. It's just splendid—Advt.

PAN-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR TOMORROW

Women's Pan-American Conference, Continental Memorial Hall, morning.

Special meetings:
Section 2, Carnegie Institution, afternoon.
Section 3, the Raleigh, morning and afternoon.
Section 4, Pan-American Union, morning and afternoon.
Section 5, the Raleigh, morning and afternoon.
Section 6, the Shoreham, morning and afternoon.
Section 7, the Raleigh, morning and afternoon.
Section 8, the New Ebbitt, morning and afternoon.
Section 9, the New Willard, morning and afternoon.
Juan Domenzoz will give exhibitions with a Bleriot monoplane on the White Lot.

Reception to members of the congress by the trustees of the Carnegie Institution, Sixteenth and P streets, 9 p. m.

POSTOFFICE WINS AUTOMOBILE SUIT

Appellate Court Holds Roper Had Right to Terminate Collection Contract.

The action of the District Supreme Court in refusing to enjoin the Postoffice Department from terminating a contract for automobile service in the collection of mail in the District was upheld today by the Court of Appeals in ruling on the action brought by Josephus Wells against Daniel C. Roper, First Assistant Postmaster General.

The upper court held the action brought by Wells was against the United States Government and could not be maintained.

The suit grew out of a notice sent Wells by Mr. Roper that his contract for collecting the mails would terminate in ninety days. Wells, who had a contract for four years, only half of which period had elapsed, sought to enjoin the Government from cancelling the contract. The lower court held with the defendant and refused the injunction.

In appealing, former Justice Daniel Thew Wright and T. M. Wampler, appearing for Wells, contended that Roper was acting for the Government, but that his act was an "unlawful" one.

The Appellate Court disagreed with this view, and held that the act was one of a government official, and the suit could not be maintained against the United States Government, and on this ground ordered the dismissal of the bill.

In pleading the case, Wells' attorneys contended that he had expended \$22,000 to equip himself for the work the Government contracted for, and that the Government, by repudiating the contract, was liable for the expense.

ST. JOHN'S WILL HAVE MILITARY COMPANY

St. John's College, in Vermont avenue, near Thomas Circle, is to have a military company, and military instruction after today will form a regular part of the curriculum.

This became known when orders were issued by the War Department assigning Major John A. Dapray as instructor in military training at the school.

Major Dapray has begun the organization of a battalion of cadets, the enrollment already having reached 150.

Appointment of an officer of the regular army to St. John's College, followed an inspection of that institution by the War Department, and was made as a part of the general scheme of military preparedness, and encouragement of military training. It is the first time that any but the public schools of Washington have had military instruction from an officer of the army.

Georgetown and Gonzaga Colleges, each have had cadet companies in the past, however.

Military training at St. John's will not be confined to cadet drill. A regular preparatory course in military science and tactics will be given by Major Dapray to prepare graduates for entrance to West Point and Annapolis, and for appointment direct to the army, navy, and marine corps.

It is believed that this training will help solve the problem of officering American troops in time of emergency.

Major John A. Dapray has had wide experience in teaching military science and tactics, having been instructor at the Peacock Military Institute, the West Point of Texas, at Maryland Agricultural College, and with several State militia organizations. He will have as his assistant a drill sergeant who served with him at the Peacock Military Institute.

Major Dapray has had long service in Washington, as adjutant general of the District Militia, as aid to the Secretary of War and in other capacities.

PERSIA SURVIVOR SAW TORPEDO WAKE

Heavy Loss of Life Due to Sudden Sinking and Fact That Passengers Were at Lunch

(Continued from First Page.)

said, "Some of the crew were trying to get over another boat, but the passengers mostly were grouped about the deck, the women clinging to the men, the children crying. Then a big wave broke over the stern, and I was in the water."

Most of the survivors were suffering from exposure to the bitter cold upon their arrival here, and it is possible other deaths may result. The women were lightly clad, and several were rescued from the water, were without coats until picked up by a rescue steamer and brought to this port.

Warships and fishing vessels are searching the waters off Crete for bodies of the Persia's victims. It is believed barely possible that some of the Persia's passengers remained afloat long enough to be picked up by Greek trawlers.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—Consul General Skinner today called the American consul at Alexandria to obtain at once a detailed statement of the sinking of the British liner Persia from Charles H. Grant, of Boston, believed to be the only American survivor.

The story told by Grant will be of the utmost importance. On it may depend whether the United States will take drastic action in the new crisis resulting from the torpedoing of the British steamer.

Skinner was abandoned hope for Robert M. McNeely, newly appointed United States consul to Aden, Alexandria, cabled early today that McNeely in all probability was lost. Press dispatches report that McNeely was last seen struggling in the water.

Accurate statements of the number of lives lost are still unavailable, though it is known that the survivors number between 135 and 160. Cable dispatches from Alexandria put the number of missing at between 247 and 255, accounting for a crew of 150. Others declare more than 300 persons lost their lives, basing their estimate on a crew of more than 200.

Despite press reports from Alexandria that no passengers were aboard the sinking liner, shipping men point out that a much larger proportion of the crew than of the passengers was saved. Only a thirty-nine of the 261 passengers were among the survivors, ninety-four of the crew of 150 to 200 were saved.

Only seventeen of the eighty-seven women passengers and only two of the thirty children aboard the Persia are included among the survivors landed at Alexandria by a warship.

The London press today, expressing horror over the heavy sacrifice of lives of non-combatants through the sinking of the Persia, devoted a large share of its editorial remarks to speculation as to America's probable course. The newspapers unanimously take the view that the Central Empire, the United States and America are expressing their contempt for the Washington administration.

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TWO CONVICTS SCALE HIGH WALL AND FLEE

Men Escape From Jersey Prison. Braving Guard With Repeating Rifle.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 3.—Joseph Thomas, having twenty-six and one-half to fifty-five years, and Fred Wilson, sentenced to nine to twenty years, escaped from the New Jersey State prison here early this morning by scaling the high wall with a rope ladder.

The men went over the wall at a point within fifty yards of the watch tower, in which was a guard with a repeating rifle.

Thomas was sent to the prison to serve concurrent sentences from Burlington, Ocean, and Monmouth counties. He was charged with arson and larceny. Wilson was sentenced from Mercer county on charges of breaking and entering and larceny. He arrived time in Elmira and Sing Sing.

Resinol Soap

keeps skins fair in spite of wintry winds

The soothing, healing medication in Resinol Soap which is so helpful in clearing poor complexions, is equally dependable for protecting delicate skins from the havoc of winter's wind and cold.

To use Resinol Soap regularly for the toilet is usually to make sure that one's complexion will come through the cold weather unharmed, and that the hands will be kept free from redness, roughness and chapping.

If you already suffer from painful and unsightly chapping, a little Resinol Ointment will usually afford complete relief.

Resinol Soap and Ointment are sold by all druggists. For samples, free, write to Dept. U-P, Resinol, Baltimore, Md.

